

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

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DRS. KIRBY AND SNOW, EDITORS.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, DEC. 5, 1846.

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FALSE ISSUES.

The writer of an article in the "Boston Medical and Surgical Journal" of Nov. 18, 1846, headed "*Homœopathy in Europe*," attempts to make a false issue among the members of the school of homœopathy. There has

never been in this country any controversy on low and high potencies or attenuations of medicines; and we do not believe there ever will be. The real issue is this—that some, professing to be homœopaths, from ignorance, indolence or hypocrisy, employ venesection, blisters, cathartics, emetics or revulsive and antiphatic measures in the treatment of disease, to the great scandal of Homœopathy. The pure homœopaths or disciples of Hahnemann reject such means, and denounce as mongrels all who employ them. We have stated again and again, that if the doctrine of the dynamization of medicines be acknowledged, he who sees fit to use the 1st or 3d attenuations in diseases may be as sound a homœopathist—so far as principles are concerned, as he who uses exclusively the 30th or the higher; from necessity, this must be left to the judgment of the physician. While we are on this subject, we may as well correct an error into which some have fallen, with regard to the practice of Hahnemann, at the period when he established the truth of the law "like cures like." It is said, he used the mother tinctures,—this is true. But how did he use them? and why did he give them up? We have it from one of his own students, and afterwards for ten years his assistant, that the dose consisted of what was upon the end of the cork of the phial which contained the medicine, and with this, a little sugar was moistened. And he seldom if ever repeated the dose. He tells us in the *Organon*, he found these doses acting (when homœopathic to the case) too violently, and in his attempts to avoid this evil, he discovered the method of attenuating the crude drug, by trituration and succession. It is to our mind, remarkable, that any one should attempt to found an argument for the exclusive use of the crude drugs, from any thing Hahnemann has said or practiced. The real issue therefore, is, homœopathy *versus* allopathy;

and to this we shall employ our humble efforts to hold our pretended friends and open enemies. It is a fact, that allopathy is being merged into *eclecticism*, and since the successful promulgation of the doctrines of Hahnemann—she assumes all colors and shapes, and requires attention, close observation, much reading, and a strict adherence to established principles to be able to distinguish the alloy of allopathy, which is sometimes mixed with the pure gold of homœopathy.

The article in the Boston Journal referred to above, is a miserable newspaper puff, fabricated for this purpose as we shall soon show. The object is, among other things, to explode the doctrine of high potencies, and to do which, poor folks are invited to attend one hour in a week to be experimented upon, to show the impracticability of high potencies. The same thing was done at Leipsic in Germany, except the poor were received one hour daily in order to obtain as hastily as possible a number of cases treated by tinctures, to report at the meeting of the 10th of August last. The article from the "New York Schnell Post," is a falsified translation. The author of that article written in German, is in favor of high potencies, and shows the absurdity of the way of controversy, by Drs. Hartmann and C. Müller as it has been done at Leipsic.

The remark in the introduction to this falsified translation, with regard to the doings of the American Institute of Homœopathy, at its meeting in Phila., "where" it is said "the doctrine of high potencies was extensively discussed and almost unanimously adopted as the only true method of treating disease" is a complete falsehood, and could have only originated with a man who was not present, or probably *not allowed* to be present. The further remark "in what estimation these opinions are held by some of the most eminent physicians of Germany," proves the complete ignorance of the writer. There was not a single eminent physician of Germany at the meeting at Leipsic, the less of the "most eminent," the meeting was poorly attended and a mere formal affair.

We do not ask the editor of the Boston Journal to insert the whole of this article, but we do ask him, as an act of justice, that he will give to his readers such portions of it as will correct the imposition practiced upon him by, we do not know who.

DIFFICULTY OF INTRODUCING NEW SYSTEMS OR SCIENCES.

Although this subject be admitted without any opposition on our part from our knowledge of the world, and of the structure of our own minds; nevertheless it may be profitable to inquire why this difficulty exists; that we may be protected against credulity on the one hand, and at the same time unwilling to yield our credence to every pretension suggested by the vagaries of an unbalanced mind, or the design of some aspirant who to gratify the desire of distinction, wantonly originates that in which he does not himself believe. This difficulty as a matter of course, does not exist to the same extent in every case—many times by a connection of circumstances, the public mind may be prepared for a new science, which has an affinity to others already defined and embraced; or where those already received serve to demonstrate those which are proposed, as geometry and astronomy.

In the discussion of this article, we refer to sciences which have no defined or heretofore understood principles, by which they are preceded or sustained.

The project of Columbus to discover a new continent was a new idea. It had to combat a thousand prejudices, notwithstanding all the arguments he alleged in favor of its plausibility. It was not until worn down with disappointment, that he was favored with an opportunity of testing the system he had embraced. It was the same with the introduction of *steam* as a power. Every one is aware of the almost invincible difficulties with which its originator was called to contend. The history of every new system or science with which man has been favored, and which in its development, has assisted to promote happiness and inspire the gratitude of an admiring world illustrates our proposition.

The developments of a science are necessary to obtain the consent of those who resist conviction upon the theoretic demonstration of its principles.

When a new world had been discovered, wreaths too beautiful could not be woven to decorate the brow of him who but just before had been assailed as an adventurer and madman. Kings and courts vied in their efforts to do homage to his talents. Now also we consecrate the memory of Fulton, who once sustained the aspersions of the ignorant, and stood the laughing stock of the rabble.

Fondness for novelty which is charged not only upon the present age, but which has always more or less distinguished our race will oppose no solid objections to the principles we advance. This does not so much apply to matters of a profound and serious nature, as to things superficial and temporary. We have heard (for instance,) an almost universal objection in our own day urged against both the sciences of phrenology, and animal magnetism, until their *developments* changed the scorn of contempt into the smile of approbation. We do not profess to understand all the pretensions of these sciences but so far as they have been developed, we cannot resist their claims. Those who have made them matters of special investigation, and who profess themselves able to decide upon their merits, who have searched into their principles, and witnessed their developments, no matter how firm the resistance they at first opposed to their advancement, it has now given way to demonstration, and is cheerfully withdrawn, and they have become the disciples and partizans and advocates of systems which they once rejected and despised. And in our opinion the great science of Homœopathy is destined to the same triumph. When those who now oppose its claims, shall have made them matters of calm and faithful investigation, we fully believe their enthusiasm will equal our own in its favor. With us it will be to them a matter of wonder that the world has so long remained ignorant of principles professing so much simplicity and worth. We are aware of the difficulty of arresting the attention of men to that against which they are honestly prejudiced, and, which they hold in doubt and disrepute: yet this is our object. With this object in view it is our design, to explain the difficulties attending the introduction of a new system. We hope to seduce some who now oppose it into the study of our system, and if we can but accomplish this, we are fully prepared to abide the result.

In our opinion, it will be as much a matter of wonder a hundred years hence, that allopathy so long received the sanction of the world, as it now is to those who have tested the principles of homœopathy, that the art of medicine is yet so little known, when many other arts of less importance to the welfare of the human family are cultivated to an extent, to secure the homage of succeeding ages.

(To be Continued.)

DR. WELLS—No. 5.

MESSRS EDITORS:

One word more of the case by Dr. Gross, and we shall have made all the use of it we intend. "It occurred in Germany." What then? and I fancy, Messrs. Editors, I hear you echo, *what then?* Why, this important fact has been observed of late, and somewhat extensively detailed in the community, that "it requires more medicine to cure disease in the United States than in Germany." Indeed! And who is the happy man who made the great discovery? Sirs, he is reputed to be a homœopathic physician, and yet he has failed utterly to master this first of the elementary truths of homœopathic science, that the *quantity* of the drug given has little or nothing to do with the cure! He does not seem to have learned yet, that its curative power is in its *relation of specific* to the morbid condition to be removed, rather than in the *quantity swallowed*. He does not seem yet to have half cast the slough which the old school threw over him. The *power to cure* in the ratio of the *quantity swallowed*! How wonderfully the world must have been cured the last thousand years! And he a homœopath! Out upon it!

I should not have alluded to this arrant nonsense, if it were not constantly meeting me in practice, and plead as justification of all sorts of abominations in the matter of doses, by those who have learned it from what they regard as high authority. The statement is not only false, but full of mischief, inasmuch as it seems to give coloring of reason, if received, for violating the best established principles in our science, and it is daily urged as sufficient excuse for just such violations. Sirs, the experience of Hahnemann and his associates is known. The success they met in healing the sick formed a new era in the history of medicine. Remember the typhus which followed the retreat from Moscow! Remember the Asiatic cholera! Remember the multitudes cured of chronic diseases, the records of which cures are spread over the pages of our European literature; and then remember, if your own knowledge of the *Materia Medica* is not sufficiently extensive and critical to enable you to imitate such success, if you are obliged to have recourse to all sorts of expedients to get along with your cases, remember theirs were in Europe and yours in America, and if you cannot thus succeed in quieting your conscience, you may satisfy your friends; and while you are in

the way of remembering, never forget that their enviable success was not so much because their cases required small quantities of drugs, as because they understood the right application of them. One case of cure has been adduced, in which success followed the use of the drug attenuated even to the 1500th degree, where drugs in mass and in lower potences had utterly failed. This was not in Germany. If farther proof of the utter falsehood and absurdity of this notion were wanted, the cases recently reported by Dr. Lippe are in point, and to these can be added hundreds and thousands from the experience of other practitioners, which show as plain as light, that *just in proportion* as American homœopaths imitate their German exemplars in critical, careful, detailed examination and record of symptoms, intimate knowledge of the *Materia Medica*, and care in the selection of their remedies, *just in that proportion* they imitate their *success*, and not by increasing the quantity of drugs given. If any man has not this habit, and this ability to examine disease, and this knowledge of the effects of drugs, he will find an increase of dose a poor substitute for it. Let such an one remember the great injunction of Hahnemann, "*Do as I have done!*" Sirs, to his followers this should have the force of imperative law. Let no man imagine he will ever see Hahnemannian results in his practice who violates this law. If he cannot investigate disease like Hahnemann or Gross, to-day, and, if he be a beginner, it is understood to be impossible, let him learn *how they have done* in this matter, and strive daily to imitate them to the utmost, and *never cease striving*; and if he fails of their perfection, he will each day draw nearer to it; and if he wants a large share of their intimate knowledge of drugs, let him toil day and night, as they toiled, to add to that which he does know, and thus, and thus only can he approximate the point where his success in curing the sick shall resemble theirs. Instead of this, let him resolve to overcome the difficulties he meets by increase of the quantity of drugs he will administer, and that day paralysis comes over his progress in the art of healing deep as death. He can never advance a step by substituting drugs for knowledge and practical obedience to law. It is a virtual resolve to cease all efforts to know more. A fool can increase the quantity of the dose of a remedy, where it may require a wise man to select the right one, and on this hinges all success.

"*Do as I have done.*" What does it mean? Not to develop and bring into practical existence a new law of healing, not to lay the foundation and rear the superstructure of a new *Materia Medica*—not to discover new laws and forms of remedies—and yet all these did Hahnemann. But it means, having the law of cure placed in your hands, and by its side the pure *Materia Medica*, that you employ the remedies of which it treats not only in accordance with the law of cure, but also in accordance with those other, no less important, laws, which govern the preparation, form, and manner of administering the remedies. I say, in these matters, the follower of Hahnemann, the man who is called by his name, is bound by the force of law.

If there be a man who has discovered a better method with medicine and the sick than Hahnemann's, let him proclaim it to the world with the same freeness and boldness that characterized the first promulgation of homœopathia, let him raise his own flag, and be called by his own name, and he shall have the honor which is his due; but let him insist on the name of a follower of Hahnemann while he pursues the figments of his own fancy and refuses to obey the master's injunction, and he will soon gain the honor due the hypocrite.

If the man can be found who has followed this precept, done as the master did, and has failed in obtaining the results he promised, let him come forward like a man, with the transaction in all its parts, in terms which can be understood by all the intelligent adherents of Hahnemann, let him thus publish it to the world, and, if there be no mistake of his own, he can thus convict the sage of error or falsehood in a manner the whole world can understand. This is what has been constantly demanded from the beginning, and is demanded still. Neither the author of homœopathia nor any one of his true adherents have ever feared this trial. They have ever insisted, and still do, that it is the only way in which the subject can be properly met. They have contended that to oppose the positive experience of competent men, confirmed by years of toil and patient observation, with mere prejudice, assertion, or a *priori* opinion, is both unmanly and unwise. Homœopaths are willing to be convicted of error, or of graver sins, by the results of faithful experiment, if any man is able to convict them. But let him who makes the attempt regard this neglected precept—"Do as I have done." They are willing to be tried by

no other law. If by this they fall, they have no complaints to utter. In the mean time, it is worthy of remembrance that no man has yet entered thus on the trial of the doctrines of Hahnemann without ultimate conviction of their fast foundation in nature and truth. Do as the master has done, and if, in so doing, it be proved that diseases in America require a larger quantity of drugs for their cure than diseases in Germany, let it be known; but if the contrary be found true, let facts correct the assertion.

THE NATURE OF SYMPTOMS.

A year ago we had under our care a gentleman who had rapidly run down with consumption, and had resorted to various expedients in the hope of cure. He was at this time confined to his bed or to his room, and had given up all hopes of recovery.

His breathing was short and labored; cough violent; expectoration profuse and fetid—occasionally bloody; profuse sweatings; pulse varying from 110 to 120; loss of appetite and great emaciation and debility; extensive ulceration of the left lung. This is a very brief description of only the more prominent symptoms of this case; enough however for our present purpose.

We were ignorant of a remedy which was known to produce a condition similar to that of our patient's lung; we took as our guide the symptoms present to our observation;—the cough, the expectoration, &c. &c., selected and administered our remedies with no expectation that they could avail, except to mitigate his sufferings; but by a steady persevering course, and strict adherence to the only rule we had, to our great surprise and gratification we found the symptoms gradually abating, and the patient in a corresponding degree recovering his appetite, strength and flesh. This improvement continued, and he has at this day the appearance of a man in robust health.

Had we known and relied upon a remedy that might have been known to produce a similarly diseased condition of the lungs as was evident existed in this case, irrespective of the other symptoms, we have no evidence that they would have at all benefited the patient; while we have in our own experience, and in that of all homœopaths, abundant reason to convince us of the safety and success of a treatment of the sick which depends upon the selection of

remedies indicated by all the symptoms present in a case; and we remember to have been especially guided in this respect, in the above case, by the *moral state* of the patient. No one symptom—no group of symptoms—nor the change of structure of the organ diseased, served separately to represent the *cause* of the derangement, which doubtless, was alone subject to the remedial influence of the medicine used. To have combatted its effects, or to have prescribed separately and distinctly in reference to these, no matter how well ascertained, would, so far as we have any rule to guide us, have been as futile as the departure from the simple and true principle for the application of curative agents would have been unnecessary and unjustifiable.

By a strict adherence to the law which requires the existence of corresponding symptoms of disease to those characteristic of the action of remedial agents, the homœopathist daily witnesses the curative effects of medicines in disorders in which, as yet, abnormal symptoms alone are present, and often where these are to a greater or less extent dependant upon actual change of structure.

Another instance to assist in the confirmation of this doctrine, we think worthy of notice. Lately we had occasion to treat a well-marked case of *Tubercles mesenterica* (scrofulous enlargement of the mesenteric glands) with fever and excessive emaciation. The disease was not only pronounced to be this by an intelligent physician of the old school of long practice in the city, but an unfavorable prognosis given. We cured the patient, (a child,) by homœopathic means and by the higher potencies. We hardly gave a dose lower than the 30th att. and often much higher. Notwithstanding the nature of the disease and the condition of the patient were evident enough, yet we were governed in the selection of the remedies by the abnormal symptoms present at different periods.

We regarded the entire state and sufferings of the patient, carefully noting all the disturbances which presented themselves to our observation, and selecting remedies whose known action upon the human system corresponded to these symptoms, we found they yielded to their influence, and the patient recovered apparent health. We do not know that the remedies which seemed to do him the most good, are known to produce that peculiar condition of the mesenteric glands, known to exist in this disease. To have cured this patient without

regard to symptoms, we should have known what remedies would produce that condition of the glands; but this it is evident we could not have known, and even were it possible, we doubt if it would have been attended by success; for the principle of the curative power of remedial agents is based upon the abnormal symptoms that any disturbing agent may give rise to in the system, or that may be dependant subsequently upon diseased structure; and not upon the similarity of the consecutive and ultimate effects of such disturbance.

DISEASES OF CHILDREN, DENTITION.

The mortality among children at the period of teething is very great. It has been estimated, that one in every five or six die at this time. It being a natural functional process—not in itself a disease—this should not be the case, and the explanation must be sought in causes *far more remote and deeply seated* than in the mere feebleness of the system at this age. It is true that the older writers have imputed these fatal results to predisposition, while they have neglected to account for it, or to explain its nature or its probable origin, and have seemed to rest satisfied in thus generally, and with apparent plausibility accounting for the fact, while it has not led them to apply the remedy—to cure the evil or lessen the formidable consequences of it. The mortality has not decreased with the *advance* of practical medicine and the *multiplied* resources of the art. Can the study of the *appropriate* remedies—the *curative* power of medicines have been properly directed? Has *rational* medicine accomplished all 'it is capable of,' or when does it promise or hope to give evidence of its utility and advancement, in saving a greater number of these feeble sufferers than were saved 2000 years ago, or in countries where *the art* is unknown?

If the accumulated experience of ages, and the combined energies of so many minds, moving in the same direction, have been inadequate to produce comparatively favorable results, should not the direction be changed, and *real competency* be sought in *radical reformation*?

The disorders to which children are subjected, being dependant upon some morbid influence predisposing the system to suffer therefrom, it is no less the province of rational medicine

than the duty of the scientific physician to detect and subdue it, often before it shall have developed itself in a serious or fatal disorder. When this predisposition to disease exists, it may, in most cases, be detected prior to the period of dentition. Combated thus early, it is readily, by the *appropriate* means subdued, and often eradicated from the system.

It is often manifested during the earliest periods of infancy in various ways—generally by means of disturbances considered *trifling* and *unworthy* the attention of a physician—sometimes in more serious and alarming difficulties. These trifling disturbances are its first appeals to art, bespeaking its timely and effectual interference. They represent the evil, and indicate the remedy, at a time when its hold upon the system is comparatively slight, and when it is more than ever susceptible to the influence of remedial agents. Too often are these "trifling" disorders neglected by the mother, or more culpably suppressed by the physician, directly or indirectly, by means as pernicious in their influence as they are inadequate to cure.

The "hiccuping" of an infant may be suppressed by a *little sugar*, or it may be controlled by a *remedy*, which, while it affords relief, shall give an effectual blow to the *cause of the disturbance*. The cholera of a little sufferer may be suppressed by an opiate, leaving the cause to break forth in some more violent form, and have *added to it*, the poisonous influence of a pernicious drug, or it may be relieved by a remedy that shall at the same time tend to weaken and annihilate it.

The irritability, restlessness and crying of infants, are evidence of the disturbing influence of some latent miasm. The existence of these difficulties, in perfectly healthy children properly nourished and otherwise cared for, is not to be presumed. This condition in the child, indicates that there is something wrong—there is some constitutional cause for it, which, while it invokes the aid, *demand*s the attention of the physician; and it is to the eradication of this cause that his efforts and skill should be directed. To suppress its manifestations is not only irrational, but leaves it to gather strength and to become developed in some more formidable manner, while the means resorted to for such a purpose, tend only to increase the derangement, and add intensity to the inherent predisposition.

Whatever may be the manner in which this predisposition manifests itself, it is incompara-

bly better than it should be treated rationally and intelligently, and with a view to its radical cure.

To do this, the physician must discover in the abnormal symptoms presented, the indication for a remedy, rather than by violent means to suppress them for the time. We need hardly reprobate the use of drugs for such purposes, so generally has this been done by the older physicians of the present day.

Where specific and comparatively harmless means are not known, the careful avoidance of exciting causes is advised, and a system of the most natural physical training enjoined. One of the most important indications to be fulfilled, as is generally considered, is to lessen the local irritation caused by the teeth as they approach the surface of the gum. The amount of irritability, in children properly treated, is, we think, in proportion to the inherent predisposition to disease. Operating as an exciting cause, this predisposition becomes developed, and the opportunity should be improved by the administration of remedies calculated to eradicate it, while they afford relief and allay the disturbance.

The cutting of the gums merely, it is evident is not adequate to the fulfilment of this double indication, though in the absence of the appropriate means it is advisable and may serve to prevent, for the time, the further development of disease.

LAWS OF HEALTH—DISEASE.

Purposing under the head of *Chronic diseases* and their treatment, at some future period, to speak more fully of the nature of the miasm giving rise to them, we give from Hahnemann's work on this subject, vol. I, of chronic diseases, *some of its effects*, as evidences of its existence: repeating what we have before premised, that the diseases of whose origin we do know, and disturbances growing out of bad habits of living, etc., are insufficient to account for the multitudinous and characteristic difficulties denominated, "*Chronic affections.*"

Insatiable hunger and want of appetite, following each other in alternation.

Swelling of the cervical glands, (scrofula.)

Tedious obstruction of the nares, one or both.

Frequent inflammation of the throat, frequent hoarseness.

Either the whole body or only the head,

neck, breast, abdomen, feet, easily catch cold, especially in a draught of air; these parts are then generally covered with sweat; the cold is attended with various symptoms, which often last a good while.

Frequent pain on one side of the head, or toothache, from even moderate mental emotions.

Frequent flashes of heat and redness in the face, sometimes combined with a sort of anxiety.

Frequent falling of the hair, dryness of the hair, scales upon the scalp.

Inclination to erysipelas on different parts of the body.

Weariness on waking up in the morning; unrefreshing sleep.

Sensation of emptiness in the stomach.

Dryness in the mouth, in the night and early in the morning.

Itching of the anus.

Chilblains; they are painful even in the summer season.

Drawing, straining pains in the back of the neck, in the back, the limbs, especially the teeth, in damp stormy weather, when the wind is from the north-west or north-east, after a cold, a strain consequent on lifting, or after disagreeable emotions, etc.

Uneasy, frightful, or too vivid dreams.

Unhealthy skin; every little wound ulcerates; the skin of the hands and lower lips become easily chopped.

Frequent boils, frequent paronychias.

Itching of the skin—especially at night and in cold weather.

Vertigo; the patient reels in walking.

Vertigo, on closing the eyes, every thing around him seems to turn; he is then attacked with nausea.

Vertigo, attacking him with a jerk in the head; he loses his senses for a moment.

Vertigo, resembling a swoon.

Vertigo, causing a loss of consciousness.

Numbness and giddiness of the head; the patient can neither think, nor accomplish any mental labor.

Dull headache in the morning, on waking up, or in the afternoon, either on walking fast or speaking loud.

Headache on one side, at certain periods, (after twenty-eight, fourteen, or a less number of days;) more frequently about the period when there is either full or new moon; or after vivid emotions colds, etc., pressure or

other pain on the top of the head or in the head or a boring pain above one eye.

Headache daily at certain hours; for example, shooting pain in the temples.

Headache as if the skull would tear open.

Drawing pain in the head.

Inflammation of the eyes, of various kinds.

Yellowness of the white of the eyes.

False sight. He sees objects double or multiplied, or he sees only one half of an object.

Objects are seen as if through a gauze or cloud, the sight is dim at certain periods.

Running from the ear, of a thin, usually fetid pus.

Bleeding from the nose more or less abundantly and frequently.

Nostrils as if stopped up.*

Smell either weak or lost.

Perversion of smell.

Fetid smell in the nose.

Swelling and redness of the nose, or of the tip of the nose, either frequently or permanently.

Cutaneous eruptions, where the skin is covered with the beard, or at the roots of the beard-hair, with itching.

Innumerable kinds of eruption on the face.†

Gums bleeding on the slightest touch.

Gums whitish, swollen, painful to the touch.

Gums disappear leaving the front teeth bare, even their roots.

Grating of the teeth during sleep.

Looseness or decay of the teeth, of various kinds, even without toothache.

Toothache of countless kinds, from many sorts of exciting causes.

Painful pustules and sore places on the tongue.

Feeling of dryness on the whole inside of the mouth, or only at some places, or deep in the throat.‡

Bad smell from the mouth.

Frequent internal inflammation of the throat

* Either one or both of them at once, or alternately the one or the other; often there is only a feeling of being stopped up, though the air passes through with ease.

† Crusta, lactea, dimples, herpes carcinomatous ulcers on the nose, lips and face, with burning and shooting pain.

‡ Chiefly on waking up in the night or in morning, with or without thirst; a high degree of dryness in the throat is often accompanied with pricking pains in swallowing.

and swelling of the parts which aid in the process of swallowing.

Bitter taste in the mouth, especially in the morning.

Sourish and sour taste in the mouth, especially after a meal, though the food tastes well.

Fetid and putrid taste in the mouth.

Risings from the stomach, empty, loud risings of air merely, incontrollable, lasting often for whole hours and frequently in the night.

Sour risings, either fasting or after a meal, especially after having tasted milk.

Heartburn more or less frequent; there is a burning all along the chest, especially after breakfast, or on moving the body.

Nausea, early in the morning.

Nausea, even to vomiting, early in the morning after rising from bed; it is lessened by motion.

Nausea, always after having eaten greasy things or milk.

Hiccough after eating or drinking.

Violent craving for food, (rabid hunger) especially in the morning; he is obliged to eat immediately, otherwise he feels sick and trembling, (and when in the open air, he is often obliged to stretch himself suddenly on the ground.)

Appetite without hunger; a desire arises to swallow suddenly all sorts of things, without the stomach craving them.

A kind of hunger; but by eating even ever so little, at once satisfied and feels full.

Thirst; constant thirst, or only in the morning on rising.

In the pit of the stomach there is a sensation of swelling, painful to the touch.

Feeling of cold in the pit of the stomach.

Oppression at the stomach, or in the pit of the stomach, as if there were a stone like a cramp.

Beatings and pulsations in the stomach, even fasting.

Pain at the stomach; the stomach feels sore, even on eating the most harmless food.

After a meal, a feeling of anxiety accompanied with sweat, such as is consequent upon anxiety.

After a meal, oppression and burning at the stomach, or in the epigastrium, almost like heartburn.

After a meal, a burning sensation in the oesophagus, from below upwards.

After a meal, distention of the abdomen.

After a meal, weary and sleepy.

After a meal, headache.

After a meal, beating of the heart.

Eating alleviates several, even remote complaints.

Cutting pains in the abdomen almost daily, especially in children; more frequently early in the morning than at any other time of the day; in some cases day and night without diarrhoea.

Pain in the liver on touching the right hypogastric region.

Pain in the liver; pressure and tension; tension below the ribs of the right side.

Pain in the liver; stitches, especially on stooping suddenly.

Spasmodic cholice, a cramp in the intestines.

Constipation; the stools often delay for several days, though there is frequently an unsuccessful desire for stool.

Passing of ascarides by the anus.

Diarrhoea, lasting for weeks, months and years.

Diarrhoea frequently returning, lasting for several days and accompanied with cutting pains in the abdomen.

Sensation of crawling and itching in the rectum, with or without the passing of ascarides.

Disorder of the menstrual functions; the menses do not appear regularly on the twenty-eighth day after the appearance of the former, do not appear without being accompanied by other morbid symptoms.

Leucorrhœa, sometimes a few days before, sometimes after the menstrual flux, or during the whole time from one period to another.

During pregnancy there is great lassitude, nausea, frequent vomiting, swoons, painful varices of the veins of the thighs or legs, also sometimes of the labia; hysteric complaints of various kinds, etc.

(To be Continued.)

HOMŒOPATHY IN WASHINGTON.

MEMRS. EDITORS:

I am a subscriber to your valuable journal, and for a year past have employed a homœopathic physician in my family. The treatment has been successfully illustrated in several instances of indisposition amongst the members of my household. I have invariably found, by my own experience, that the cures by Hahnemann's system have been more

speedy, thorough, and agreeable than by the therapeutics of Hippocrates. With my children it has been particularly felicitous, for the palatable mode of administration has obviated many of the most troublesome obstacles in medicinal regimen. I have been induced to address you, specially, in consequence of a striking demonstration in behalf of Homœopathy, in the case of a relation of mine, in this city. The patient is upwards of 50, of a plethoric habit, and subject to attacks of paralysis and apoplexy. He had, in former times, been three or four times copiously bled, blistered, and purged, according to the ancient method; but on a recurrence of his symptoms, about two months ago, voluntarily preferred calling in Dr. Green, of this city, late of Philadelphia, my own family physician. The doctor neither bled, scarified, nor excoriated him, but, with the genial potency of the misapprehended infinitesimal doses, baffled his disease and restored Mr. W. to perfect health. The late invalid now values Homœopathy according to its works.

The new science is becoming daily more popular here. Last winter, many Senators and Representatives tested its superior merits, and there is no more enthusiastic advocate in its behalf than the intelligent and clear-headed Dixon H. Lewis, U. S. Senator from Alabama.

We have two homœopathic physicians, who are enjoying active practice, and their aid has been successfully invoked by many of our most respectable families.

Having received an amateur medical education in one of the old medical schools, I have been able, in some degree, to judge of the rationale of the *Organon*, and I frankly confess, that my own personal observation and experience have convinced myself of its superior merits.

I am, Sirs, with much respect,

Your friend,

S. Y. A. L.

Washington, Nov. 10, 1846.

POWER OF ATTENUATIONS.

We have been asked why, if the attenuation of drugs increases their power, are the less attenuated, and the tinctures used in the more severe forms of disease, such as bilious and intermitting fevers.

We do not regard the use by some practitioners of large doses, as evidence that attenu-

tion does not increase the *curative* power of drugs. We have abundant and constantly accumulating evidence of the curative power of drugs, in the attenuated form, in the severe attacks of disease. Practitioners of great experience testify to their preference of these preparations, in all or nearly all cases. The very first cure we remember to have made by homœopathic means, was an intermitting fever of some months continuance, which had baffled the skill of more than one physician of the old school, and this we effected with a single dose of an attenuated drug. In bilious and other acute attacks, our own experience, has constantly confirmed us in the use of the higher potencies. The curative effects of drugs are not dependent upon the size of the dose, but upon the positive relation they sustain to disease. A large dose may effect a cure, but not by virtue of its quantity; the *tendency* of such doses is to produce a drug disease, or to aggravate that already existing. There are it is true, circumstances connected with the susceptibility of a patient, and the characteristic action of certain drugs that might dictate the use of different degrees of attenuation, but these are so much dependant upon the knowledge and judgment of the Physician, that no rule to govern in all cases can be adopted.

We believe that the attenuation of drugs, fits them to act with more power and promptitude, upon the human organism in disease, because in such form they are more nearly allied to the vital principle and the *causes of disease*;—they are thus made to simulate them in subtlety and spirituality, and this may be essential in securing their curative effects.

To produce an *alteration* in the deranged vital action is one thing;—but to oppose to the *cause* of the derangement an antidote—a remedy, that shall annihilate it, and leave the system free to regain its condition of health quite another.

The natural tendency of the vital power is to resist the influence of disturbing causes, and to overcome them when they shall have invaded the system. The administration of the appropriate remedies, in the proper form, by antidoting the cause, enables the system the more readily, or at once, to return to its normal condition, while an inappropriate drug or an improper form of it, may produce an *alteration* in the existing condition, which might enable the system to overcome the disturbed action, or it may not. A large dose of a drug homœopathic, to the case, may act curatively,

while it is liable to aggravate and confuse it by the addition of its own specific effects. Nuxvomica in tincture, we believe, has a tendency to produce rather than to cure constipation of the bowels; while in the 30th att. and higher, when indicated, it acts promptly in overcoming this difficulty; and so of other drugs in other cases. We are satisfied of the truth of the doctrine, that attenuated drugs are more in harmony with the susceptibility of the vital power, greatly increased as it is in disease. Hence their more prompt action, and the greater safety in their use. The means are adapted to the desired effects. The power applied is proportioned to the resistance to be overcome.

In acute disorders, the prompt action of the attenuation is in proportion to the intensity of the deranged vital action; and it is then that the more striking and efficient effects of the carefully and rightly selected medicines are displayed. When the symptoms are marked and even threatening, they will be found to yield to the specific in a highly attenuated form. The drug simulating in its effects, and in its form, the cause of disturbance, is competent to its removal.

The precise degree of the attenuations to be used, is a matter for the judgment of the physician to determine, guided by his own, and the combined experience of the profession, and this knowledge of general principles.

HAHNEMANN ON COFFEE.

In man's healthy natural state, when left to itself, unpleasant must alternate with pleasant sensations; this is the wise provision of our nature. But during the first effect of this medicinal beverage, all is contentment, and even the bodily functions, which in the natural state of health are connected with an unpleasant sensation, approaching to pain, are performed with the greatest facility, and even with a sort of pleasurable feeling.

Every man who does not live wholly in a state of nature has at times, at the moment, or for the first quarter of an hour after he awakes, especially when it takes place sooner than usual an unpleasant sensation of imperfectly aroused consciousness, of heaviness, sloth, and inactivity in his limbs; quick movements are painful, thought is an effort.

But, lo! coffee banishes this unpleasant but natural feeling, this uncomfortableness of body

and mind, almost in an instant, and we rise up at once to new life.

After the close of our day's labor, we must, in the course of nature, become weary; an unpleasant sense of fatigue and exhaustion, in our powers of body and mind, make us ill-humored and fretful, and compels us to surrender ourselves to sleep and necessary rest.

This discontent and indolence, this unpleasant weariness of the mind and body, as natural sleep draws nigh, disappears at once before this medicinal beverage, and a sleeplessness, an artificial liveliness, a wakefulness in defiance of nature, make their appearance.

We require nutriment, in order to live, and nature has compelled us to seek it and replace it when our body has parted with it by means of hunger, a gnawing painful feeling in the stomach, a tormenting desire for food, a peevish, quarrelsome fretfulness, coldness, uneasiness, &c.

Not less painful is the feeling of thirst, and yet not the less is it a wholesome provision of nature. Besides the longing for liquids, which our body requires to replace its losses, we are tormented by a dryness of the throat and mouth, and a dry heat of the whole body which seems to confine the breath, restlessness, &c.

We drink coffee—and, lo! we feel little or nothing of the painful sensations of hunger, or of the anxious longing of thirst. True coffee drinkers, especially those females who are deprived of the advantage of recovering from time to time, from the ill effects of this beverage by exercise in the open air, know little of real hunger and thirst. The body is cheated out of its food and its drink, and the vessels of the skin are forced against nature to imbibe as much moisture from the atmosphere as is required for the absolutely necessary purposes of life. Confirmed coffee drinkers void far more liquid than they drink. The natural demands of nature must be hushed. In this way, thanks to the divine nectar, we gradually approach the state of the blest spirits above us, and commence our spiritualization here below.

The beneficent Preserver of all human beings, caused in the healthy individual unpleasant feelings, on motion, after being satiated with food. These were designed to compel us to a certain quiet of body and mind, in order that the important task of digestion might begin undisturbed. An indolence of body and mind—a feeling of compression in the region

of the stomach, arising on motion, a kind of unpleasant pressure, a fullness and distention of the abdomen, &c., remind us when we attempt to exert our energies immediately after a meal, that rest is necessary. And if we try to exercise our powers of thought, there arises a heaviness of the mental faculties, a dullness of the head, a coldness of the limbs with simultaneous warmth of the face, and the feeling of pressure in the stomach, united with a painful sensation of distention of the abdomen, become still more intolerable; it being a fact that the exercise of our mental powers at the commencement of the process of digestion is still more unnatural and more hurtful than even bodily exertion.

Coffee destroys this heaviness of mind and body, and this oppressed feeling in the abdomen after a meal. Refined revellers drink it immediately after meals, and attain in a great degree this unnatural result. They become gay, and feel as light and lively as though their stomach was but partially, or not at all replenished.

The wise Framer of our nature has also sought to compel us to evacuate the secretions of the body by means of unpleasant sensations. There arises an intolerable desire, combined with a not less unpleasant pressure, by which all the agreeable sensations of life are checked, and as it were swallowed up, till the evacuation takes place. And exertion is by our nature necessarily requisite for the final expulsion of the excrements.

But the refined spirit of the times has cared for this, and has sought to elude this law of nature too. In order artificially to advance and expedite the period of digestion, which in the order of things, lasts for several hours, and to escape the unpleasant, often slowly-arising desire to relieve the bowels, our pleasure-seeking contemporaries, who dread unpleasant sensations like children find a remedy in coffee. The intestines, excited by coffee, (in its first operation) force their contents more speedily towards the anus, even when but half digested, and the reveller imagines he has discovered a most precious digestive. But the fluid nutritive juice of the chyme cannot be properly changed, (digested) in this short time in the stomach, nor sufficiently absorbed by the lacteals in the intestinal canal; hence the mass passes through the unnaturally excited intestines to the surface in a half-liquid state, without having contributed the half of its nutritive substance to the benefit of

the body. An admirable digestive—one which triumphs over nature herself!

(To be continued.)

Our correspondent S. of Cleveland, O. is requested to find notice of his communication in the article on the "Power of Attenuations."

Our surprise alone was equalled by our regrets on finding admitted to the pages of the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, unjust personalities—a Journal which we have esteemed as much for its uniform courtesy, as for its acknowledged liberality.

Mr. Radde has received the Oct. number of the *British Journal of Homœopathy*.

It contains among other interesting papers, an account of the proceedings of the first annual assembly of the British Homœopathic Society, held in London on the 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th of August last, together with the address of the President, Dr. Quin, on the occasion.

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